TIMBER TALK

PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS

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President's Message

Wishing everyone and their family a Happy and Healthy New Year from the Board of Directors!

Being that a new year is upon us, it gives us all a time to reflect on the events of the past year. We can now look forward to seeing what 2022 brings. I know that being able to attend a Coin Show, and the chance to meet up with fellow members whether at a Show or local Club meeting and enjoy some fellowship will be great.

Since this the start of the New Year, it is also the time to renew your CAWMC membership. Please check out the renewal form that is included in this issue of TT. If you have already sent in your dues, thank you.

This also would be a great time to put on your writer's hat and think of a topic or subject of wooden money collecting that you enjoy and put pen to

This is also the perfect time of year to review what events you are thinking of partaking later this year. Why not add to your schedule to attend the annual CAWMC meeting in Ottawa this July, in conjunction with the annual RCNA Convention. The CAWMC breakfast meeting is always a hit, with a scrumptious breakfast, auction, and the chance to catch up personally with fellow club members

As always please feel free to reach out to me if you have any ideas of suggestions that would make CAWMC more successful and fun to be member of. CHEERS! ***JAMES***

Featured Wood of the Month

This month's free wood is an old Christmas wood issued by the late Art Stephenson, who for many years, distributed the Toronto Star and the Globe and Mail newspapers, to many customers in the Guelph and Arthur areas of Southern Ontario. For several years, just prior to Christmas, he would include a wooden nickel in one of his deliveries. That garnered him some many good tips.

Art was a very active member and a very willing volunteer in the numismatic community. He was a member of many clubs and associations. He was an Ontario Numismatic Association Regional Director, a Past President of the South Wellington Ontario Coin Society and a very active member in the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 226 in the Arthur, Ontario region where he lived. While he collected various numismatic items, Art always said he enjoyed his wooden money collecting the most.

Why the 2006 date is on this wood is somewhat confusing as this wood was actually distributed by Art, to his customers, just prior to Christmas in 2005.

Many of Art's woods have been featured, as free woods, in past issues of Timber Talk. Of course, this wood is listed under Arthur, Ontario with number 5076 - 014. The obverse is green and the reverse black / blue with size 45mm. Thanks to Al Munro who acquired Art's collection and donated this wood to CAWMC. ***ROSS***

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NEWS FLASH

Norm Belsten has now completed a 2021 Catalogue Listing Supplement (no pictures), which lists and gives a catalogue number to over 150 wooden tokens that have surfaced since the last Listing which was issued in mid year 2020. It is available electronically only, by e-mail with a donation of $5.00 to C.A.W.M.C. Please send your request for this Supplement to dacar57@hotmail.com and your $5.00 donation via ***cheque to Al Munro*** *(see mailing address on front page) or by* ***e-transfer to France D. Waychison*** *at france@waychison.com Please use the word – Supplement as the answer on your e-transfer for France to accept your donation*.*

**This donation can be added to your cheque ore-transfer payment for your annual subscription to Timber Talk*

Get to Know Me

Hi everybody. My name is France Duranleau Waychison, shortened to France D Waychison, for space-and-tongue-saving matter.

Like our current president James, I was born in Quebec, in a small place called Coaticook, in Eastern Townships. I was raised and spent my youth in Amqui, in the beautiful Matapedia Valley, in the eastern part of Lower St-Lawrence. Those of you who drove around the iconic Gaspe Peninsula probably went through my hometown.

I studied business administration at the CEGEP of Matane, worked and had a lot a fun in Quebec City in the 70's, and somehow ended up in Timmins ON with my geologist husband and our two boys. I am now a proud grand-mother of a two year old grandson.

I came to wooden money collecting after meeting Norm Wells and some of our older members circa 1983. Since then, I had some intensive periods of collecting, and at other times, not so much. I became more serious about the hobby in early 2000, possibly to fight empty nesters' syndrome. I have been vice-president of CAWMC in 2013-2015 and president from 2015 to 2021. I also became editor of our publication *Timber Talk* in 2019.

I find that editing the TT, writing articles about woods, is as fun as the collecting itself, although I love collecting very limited edition woods, personal woods of fellow collectors, etc. I also cherish my small collection of Spruce Dollars. And I get a quick of finding woods of specific designs issued in different colors.

On the non-wood side, I am fond of products issued by Lasqueti Mint, a former three-walled small mint operating on a B.C. Island of the same name.

I recently became a director of *L'Association des Numismates Francophones du Canada* (ANFC) and continue to promote numismatic and collecting in both languages and I encourage the sharing of knowledge between francophone and anglophone collectors. Another one of my "idée fixe" is the need for collector's spouses to take an interest in the collector's "stuff", if only for financial purposes.

Over the years I found out that participating in local, regional, and national numismatic events brought joy and new friends from all over the place. I broke bread or tested whisky with many collectors and their spouses and got to learn a great deal about this beautiful country, its inhabitants, and their history. For me, that's the greatest appeal of any collecting.

France

Mid Island Coin Club 2020 and 2021 woods

Felix Stawski, Nanaimo BC

Mid Island Coin Club produced their first wooden nickel as a thank you gift to guest speakers, but word got out to the woods collectors and soon they were all gone! These first 20 woods were undated, and a suggestion was made that we do another release with a date on it. Therefore, we produced twenty dated 2021.

The design on both woods is based on the winning entry submitted by Henry Nagtegaal for our club's 20th anniversary. The design on the woods is laser engraved by Bastion Trophies in Nanaimo. 50 Pewter tokens were also minted by A&T Design, from Toronto

One side of the wood defines Victoria Island, BC, surrounded by the words *Mid-Island Coin Club* and Nanaimo BC. The designer's initials appear at the right of the design. The year 2021 appears on the left of the design for that wood's year. The wood issued in 2020 was left undated.

The Mid-Island Coin Club was formed in 2001, with16 members. Today the club has more than 55 members, with interest ranging from ancient coins to varieties of paper money, and everything in between. The club's website is midislandcoinclub.com.

The reverse of the woods shows the Nanaimo Bastion, Circa 1900.

The **Nanaimo Bastion** is a historical octagon-shaped blockhouse. The Hudson's Bay Company, built it between 1853 and 1855 to defend its coal mining operations in Nanaimo.

The Bastion was constructed using the pièce-sur-pièce (post-and-plank) method.

In 1891, Nanaimo City purchased the blockhouse for $175 and moved it across the street from its original location. It was moved a second time in 1979, when the roads were being widened. On December 12, 1985, the city of Nanaimo designated it a local heritage site.[1] In 2010,the Bastion was torn apart to renew rotting boards and add stabilizing steel beams, preserving it for many more generations to enjoy.

Source of information for the Nanaimo Bastion: Wikipedia, December 14, 2021

Chips from the Woodpile … by Dave Gillespie

As we move into 2022 you should know that Alexander Graham Bell once said "When one door closes another one opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us". It is time to put 2021 and Covid-19 behind us and look for the open door as we read about the past articles from Timber Talk.

Matthew Sztym issued a very unique real nickel glued to a wooden nickel for the 2008 C.N.A. convention held in Ottawa. The obverse advertises his business and the reverse shows "Cents of Humor" with a Canadian nickel attached. It is listed in the catalogue as number 8300-099. The "Cents of Humor" wood was made by a company in Texas and Matthew won 100 woods in one of their promotional contests with a 5th place finish in a Politics design contest. He stated that: "the C.N.A. was to be held in Ottawa, Canada's capital city and the seat of the Federal Government". It is ironic that even a last place finish will get you money in Politics!

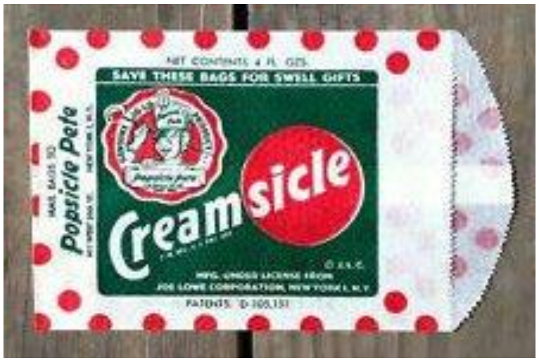
Two newsletters in early 2009 provided articles by Dave Phillips highlighting American Political woods with pictures and write-ups.

It seems that in Alaska, and it may be true for other states as well, that people running for different levels of office like to use wooden tokens as an effective and possibly inexpensive method for sending their message. There are a few Canadian political woods listed but I don't believe that it is a very common practice. If you think about it, how well would our politicians in Ottawa be able to express themselves on the back of a wooden nickel?

The "Popsicle Pete" woods appeared in a 2009 article by John Regitko with some history. With so many flavours available it is hard to think of anyone not enjoying a hot summer day with a popsicle in hand.

The sticks are incused to advertise the name 'Popsicle Pete' and a denomination of 'points' i.e. 5, 10, 25, 50, or 100. The sticks showing points, as John discovered,

are to be collected and can be redeemed for prizes. The Popsicle brand is an American classic.



The ice pop was accidently invented in 1905 by an eleven year old, Frank Epperson when he left a mixture of powered soda and water with a stir stick in a cup on the family front porch one cold night in San Francisco. The next morning Frank found a frozen pop. He originally named his creation "Epsicle" and it was very popular with his school friends. It wasn't until 1923 while running a lemonade stand at an amusement park that Frank realized the commercial potential of the treat. After many children frequently asked for "Pop's 'sicle" he changed the name to Popsicle.

The rights to the brand were sold and the business both grew and has changed hands several time to become a part of the Good Humor-Breyers Ice Cream Company empire. An accidental discovery became a very popular and profitable business. The popsicle stick woods are listed in the Canadian catalogue under Ontario misc. This is a great success story on such a popular summer treat BUT the question one must ask is "how did these American popsicle sticks" get a listing in the Canadian Wooden Money catalogue?

And now for a quiz question:

Sault Ste. Marie issued ten "Soo Locks Centennial" woods in 1955. Do you know the two denominations or values used and the colours for each?

Til next time … Let the Chips lie where they fall.   Dave Gillespie

Answer to the quiz question of December 2021

Q. In what town is The Hotel Hamilton located? And in what year did the owners issue a wooden nickel?

A. Abbotsford, British Columbia in 1967 – wood # 9080-001

Woods of the World *by Vic Agha*

White spruce. Prince George, in the center of British Columbia, issued over 150 different white spruce dollars from 1958 through 2007. These were for promotional use and featured a different theme each year. They started off as $1 coins, but the face value was increased to $1.50 in the 1980s and eventually got up to $3.

Black Walnut. The United States centennial exposition of 1876 was held in Philadelphia. Anticipating the demand for souvenirs, private issuers obtained patents for making medals for the expo. Advertisements from the time state that they were “carved in solid walnut.” The wood was softened with water and the design then pressed into it.

In addition to the American centennial medals, the Canadian 1880 Dominion Exhibition medal and the Brazil pattern medals from the 1850s are also made of black walnut.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

I / We wish to **JOIN** or **RENEW** my membership in the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (CAWMC). **Annual Dues are due before January 1st of 2022:**

Canadian Resident $10.00 / Youth *(16 years of age and under)* $5.00 Canadian Funds

U.S. Resident $10.00 / Youth *(16 years of age and under)* $5.00

U.S. Funds International Resident *(outside Canada and United States)* $20.00 Canadian Funds

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

Mailing address: _____ (street, unit, etc.)

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Contact Telephone:_( )_____ Please include the area code with the contact number above.

Note: your e-mail address is given to our Editor to set you up with website access to Timber Talk archives and other site features. Our President uses it to send out the newsletter by e-mail. Your mailing address is used by our Secretary for membership records, and for mailing out your woods annually if you are not available to receive them in person. If you receive your newsletter by Canada Post, our Secretary uses your address for that purpose. Your phone number is the CAWMC Executive to contact you if business dictates. We do not give out your contact information to anybody without your expressed consent beforehand. If you wish your contact information to be given in an upcoming Timber Talk as you wish to invite other members of the CAWMC to contact you for trading woods, or just hobby discussion, or for research on a wood you cannot identify, please contact our Editor.

Payment by E-transfer. Send your payment to france@waychison.com.

If there is a change in your address or phone number, please send an email to Al Munro wood5cents@shaw.ca or to France D. Waychison at france@waychison.com.

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